

## Summary of November 27, 2013 RM 10.9 Removal Action Status Teleconference

### Attendees

- EPA (Mike Hoppe and Stephanie Vaughn)
- dmi (Stan Kaczmarek and John Rolfe)
- CH2M HILL (George Hicks, Roy Weller, Taylor Salsburg, Mike Jury and Jen Wilke)
- GLDD (Todd King and Tim Briggs)
- CDM (Sharon Budney, Ben Hammond, Amy Picunas and Frank Tsang)
- USACoE (Beth Franklin)

### Discussion Points

1. H&S Moment – Take your time with holiday travel especially with the inclement weather expected for today
2. H&S Observations – On-river work continues with no recordables, and with healthy attention to Near-Miss reporting
3. Weather impacts – Due to significant rain event, on-river work was canceled for November 27
4. Capping Summary – Area south of No Dredge Zone was completed and equipment was moved north of No Dredge Zone last Friday
  - a. EPA (Stephanie) expressed concern about the area south of No Dredge Zone having an active layer with AquaGate concentration under 30% v/v, and asked what CPG's plans were to address that.
  - b. CPG (Stan) replied that the south area still meets the minimum requirement and that AquaGate percentages in the north area is and will continue to be significantly higher to meet the Removal Area-wide minimum average of 30% v/v.
    - i. The specific contract requirement is "The active material shall be placed as a uniform mixture within the sand layer and consist of a minimum average of 30 percent by volume and a minimum of 25 percent by volume of AquaGate+PAC™ as manufactured by AquaBlok, Ltd."
  - c. CPG (Stan and Mike Jury) also emphasized that AquaGate volume placed is directly related to the number of bags utilized whereas all other volume measurements are estimated. Therefore, adequacy of material placement should depend primarily on looking at that volume per area of coverage, and ensure that it is  $\geq 2.5$  inch equivalents, which modeling and the approved design indicate will provide the required level of protection.
  - d. EPA (Stephanie) indicated that they wanted additional verification of the adequacy of AquaGate placement such as the Total Carbon analysis of the cores, and that they may not approve demobilization of equipment until they get this evidence.
5. Total Carbon Analysis of Cores – Jen Wilkie reported that the lab is having issues with drying of the cores, so no data is currently available
  - a. dmi (Stan) asked CH2M HILL to push the labs to get some results to us more quickly.

6. Air Monitoring Data – continues to show no impact from capping operations
  - a. EPA approved CPG's request to cease immediately ongoing real time monitoring for dust and H<sub>2</sub>S.
  - b. EPA also directed CPG to keep one dust, H<sub>2</sub>S and VOC monitor available to deploy in case anybody makes an odor complaint.
7. Water Quality Monitoring – turbidity levels at the monitoring buoys continue to show no impact from the capping operation
  - a. CPG requested that no more routine sampling of water quality for COPCs take place especially since no sediment is being stirred up since only clean material is being placed
  - b. EPA indicated that if placement of the active layer continues into the middle of the December 1 week, that another sampling composite sampling event occur.
  - c. If active layer placement is still occurring on Wednesday December 4, CPG will collect a final series of 2 composite transect samples at the locations of Buoys 2 and 3.
8. Armor Stone – GLDD (Todd) reported that lab tests are still not completed, and anticipated all final results by middle of December 1 week
  - a. dmi (Stan) requested that as results come in, they be submitted to CH2M HILL and dmi for review.
9. Website Reports – EPA approved for posting the summary report for the week ending 11/24.
  - a. CDM (Sharon) indicated that the buoy identification in those reports may not be correct
  - b. GLDD and dmi agreed to investigate. (Upon investigation, it was determined that the buoy numbers are the opposite of what they were during dredging... now going south to north the buoys are numbered 4, 3, 2, 1... reports will be modified to reflect this change).
10. Miscellaneous
  - a. In river work will resume the day after Thanksgiving.
  - b. A map showing adequate depth of the active layer in the undercut areas is being drafted; when it is complete, it will be shared with EPA.
  - c. A new barge movement schedule was issued the morning of 11/27 and will be posted to the website by the end of the day. CPG will continue to responsive to requests from bridge operators about avoiding high traffic times.
  - d. Placement of the geotextile cannot occur until the armoring stone is approved and brought up river.
  - e. Hudson County has not shared its engineering report on Bridge Street Bridge with CPG.
  - f. A report denying that GLDD vessels damaged a Rutherford resident's shoreline, was sent to that resident this week.